

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The Abstract has been amended to overcome the objection to use of the word "means". All references to such word have been deleted.

With the cancellation of claim 5, all reference to "a rack and pinion mechanism" has been deleted from the claims. Accordingly, it is believed that such deletion overcomes the objections to both the specification and the drawings.

Claim 10 has been amended to depend from claim 9 thereby providing an antecedent basis for "the trailer." Claim 11 has been amended to depend from claim 1 and to delete "locking." Accordingly, it is believed that the objections to claims 10 and 11 are overcome.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-3 and 6-10 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Leto (767) and claims 1-3, 6 and 7 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Jurek (570). It is respectfully submitted that claim 1, as amended, overcomes such rejection.

The reference to Leto (767) discloses a truck door locking system which requires the insertion of a locking bar 18 from outside the trailer when the door 22 is closed. With the door closed, the locking bar 18 is inserted through aperture 30b and thereafter through the hollow portion 12c of the holding sleeve 12. The sections 12a and 12b are mounted on the inside of the door 22. The locking bar extends into the aperture 38 of securing plate 14 secured to the opposing side wall of the trailer. A locking device 36 is mounted onto a locking plate containing aperture 30b and operates a cam which, upon being rotated out, engages the locking bar and prevents its movement. In contrast, the security locking system as defined in claim 1 as amended, clearly sets forth the feature of the locking bar being secured to and slideably positioned on the door along with means mounted on the door for advancing the locking bar into position in the lock housing. There is no teaching or suggestion of those features of claim 1 or those dependent thereon.

The reference to Jurek (570) is directed to a locking mechanism for vending machines which utilizes a locking bar 56 which is received in openings of an upper cover 52 and a lower cover 54. A lock cylinder having a pivot latch 74 is rotatable to move the pivot latch from a position engaged to the locking bar to a position disengaged from the locking bar. The reference to Jurek does not disclose or suggest the locking bar secured to and slideably positioned on the door or means mounted on the door for advancing the locking bar into position in the lock housing.

The Examiner has also rejected claim 1 under 35 U.S. C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Letzel (514) in view of Modica (454). The reference to Letzel discloses a door mounted actuator which is longitudinally displaceable in response to door handle rotation. The actuator is supported in a guide mounted on the inside surface of an access door. Rotation of either the exterior door handle 1 or the interior door handle 2 causes rotation of the other which are coupled to one another by an axle or pin 3. Rotation of the pin 3 results in longitudinal displacement of actuator 5 which is supported for longitudinal motion in a guide 6. The reference to Modica discloses an alarm and locking device for deterring theft of removable vehicle roof tops. A handle 19 is rotated to move connecting bars 13 and shafts 5 and 7 such that the shafts 5 and 7 will slide into or project out of the roof top section.

It is respectfully submitted there is nothing in the combined teachings of Letzel and Modica which discloses or suggests the feature of a locking bar secured to and slideably positioned on the door wherein the locking bar is received in a lock housing with a pin received in an aperture of the locking bar to retain the locking bar in the lock housing.

The reference to Blum (104) has been cited as showing a locking bar 70 which has an aperture for receiving a lock pin, namely, the shackle 76 of the padlock. It is respectfully submitted that the use of a lock through an aperture in a

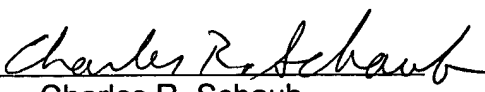
locking bar 70 in no way suggests the feature of the security locking system of the present invention with the locking bar secured to and slideably positioned on the door and the pin extending through an aperture on the end of the locking bar when it is in the lowered position received in the lock housing.

Newly submitted claims 13-20 also clearly set forth the feature of the locking member being slideably engaged to the interior surface of the door and moveable from a first position exteriorly of the lower wall to a second position interiorly of the lower wall with both (1) engagement means engaged by said lower end when the locking member is in the first position preventing the opening of the door and (2) retention means engageable with the lower end when the lower end is in the first position to prevent movement of the locking member and the lower end to said second position. Claims 13-16 provides additional features clearly distinguishing the present invention over the prior art.

Claim 17 is similar to claim 13 but adds the feature of a securing member having an upper end engageable with stop member adjacent the upper wall and means for interconnecting the locking member and securing member. Claims 18-20 are dependent upon claim 17 and are similar to claims 14-16.

In view of the foregoing, reconsideration of the application and allowance of claims 1 and 8-20 are respectfully solicited.

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